

HOUSE No. 4936

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, January 22, 2026.

The committee on Financial Services, to whom was referred the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 1164) of Sean Garballey and Jennifer Balinsky Armini relative to the definition of licensed mental health professional in the insurance laws, reports recommending that the accompanying bill (House, No. 4936) ought to pass.

For the committee,

JAMES M. MURPHY.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Ninety-Fourth General Court
(2025-2026)**

An Act to improve child and adolescent mental health services.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 22 of Chapter 32A of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2022
2 Official Edition, is hereby amended by striking out the last paragraph, and inserting in place
3 thereof the following paragraph:-

4 For the purposes of this section, “licensed mental health professional” shall mean a
5 licensed physician who specializes in the practice of psychiatry, a licensed psychologist, a
6 licensed independent clinical social worker, a licensed mental health counselor, a licensed nurse
7 mental health clinical specialist, or a licensed educational psychologist within the lawful scope of
8 practice for such educational psychologist.

9 SECTION 2. Section 47B of Chapter 175, as so appearing, is hereby amended by striking
10 out the second paragraph of subsection (i) and inserting in place thereof the following
11 paragraph:-

12 For the purposes of this section, “licensed mental health professional” shall mean a
13 licensed physician who specializes in the practice of psychiatry, a licensed psychologist, a

14 licensed independent clinical social worker, a licensed mental health counselor, a licensed nurse
15 mental health clinical specialist, or a licensed educational psychologist within the lawful scope of
16 practice for such educational psychologist.

17 SECTION 3. Section 8A of Chapter 176A of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2022
18 Official Edition, is hereby amended by striking out the second paragraph of subsection (i) and
19 inserting in place thereof the following paragraph:-

20 For the purposes of this section, “licensed mental health professional” shall mean a
21 licensed physician who specializes in the practice of psychiatry, a licensed psychologist, a
22 licensed independent clinical social worker, a licensed mental health counselor, a licensed nurse
23 mental health clinical specialist, or a licensed educational psychologist within the lawful scope of
24 practice for such educational psychologist.

25 SECTION 4. Section 176B, as so appearing, is hereby amended by
26 striking out the second paragraph of subsection (i) and inserting in place thereof the following
27 paragraph:-

28 For the purposes of this section, “licensed mental health professional” shall mean a
29 licensed physician who specializes in the practice of psychiatry, a licensed psychologist, a
30 licensed independent clinical social worker, a licensed mental health counselor, a licensed nurse
31 mental health clinical specialist, or a licensed educational psychologist within the lawful scope of
32 practice for such educational psychologist.

33 SECTION 5. Section 176G of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2022
34 Official Edition, is hereby amended by striking out the second paragraph of subsection (i), and
35 inserting in place thereof the following paragraph:-

36 For the purposes of this section, “licensed mental health professional” shall mean a
37 licensed physician who specializes in the practice of psychiatry, a licensed psychologist, a
38 licensed independent clinical social worker, a licensed mental health counselor, a licensed nurse
39 mental health clinical specialist, or a licensed educational psychologist within the lawful scope of
40 practice for such educational psychologist.